

HONORING COURT APPOINTED
SPECIAL ADVOCATES OF SANTA
CRUZ COUNTY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the indispensable advocacy of a Central Coast organization that gives a voice to some of our most vulnerable community members. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Santa Cruz County improves the lives of children in the foster care system by pairing them with trained volunteers from the community who advocate for them and stand by their side as stable adults they can count on as they go through the chaos of the foster care system.

CASA and its devoted staff and team of volunteers are guided by the needs of children in need of someone to stand by them and ensure they are not alone as they face instability, fear, and unfamiliar surroundings. Since 1994, the organization has continued to be the only local nonprofit of its kind that recruits, trains, and supports community volunteers to serve as court appointed advocates for abused and neglected foster children throughout Santa Cruz County. CASA of Santa Cruz County exists so that abused and neglected children in protective care have the chance to become successful adults.

Thanks to the devoted advocates and the Santa Cruz CASA team, these children have a voice as they navigate a tumultuous system. CASA provides these children the compassion, clarity, and care they so desperately need. And it is because of CASA that these children and youth have the tools they need to go on to successful adulthoods.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize this treasured community organization that has protected and advocated for countless foster children and youth. I thank all of those who have given their time and resources to help these children feel safe and succeed. I extend my gratitude to CASA Santa Cruz's Board of Directors, Board President Andrea Willy, Executive Director Lynne Petrovic, and its devoted network of advocates.

ISMAEL LUEVANOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ismael Luevanos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ismael Luevanos is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ismael Luevanos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ismael Luevanos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNSYLVANIA
COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians on its 50th Anniversary. The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians was founded in 1971 by six physicians and held its first meeting on November 27, 1971 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Today, they represent over 1,900 emergency medicine physicians who treat over 6,000,000 patients each year in emergency departments across the Commonwealth.

These dedicated Pennsylvania emergency physicians provide medical care 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year to all Pennsylvanians with any condition regardless of socioeconomic status, and serve as the healthcare safety net in the Commonwealth. These emergency physicians are also critical to the ability of the Commonwealth to respond to disasters and mass casualty events, are vital frontline healthcare workers in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, and the medical care they provide saves the lives of many patients in the Commonwealth every day.

Pennsylvania emergency physicians are leaders in defining, evaluating, and improving quality emergency care, focusing on individual patients while advocating for and advancing the public health and the wellness of society as a whole. The Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians is committed to providing ongoing continuing education for emergency physicians in the Commonwealth and serves as the primary voice of Pennsylvania emergency physicians and patients seeking emergency care in the health care system and halls of government.

In short, Pennsylvania emergency physicians have contributed greatly to the health and wellbeing of the entire population of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

For these reasons, I stand here today to congratulate the Pennsylvania College of Emergency Physicians on its 50th Anniversary; recognize the accomplishments and contributions Pennsylvania emergency physicians have made to advance health care in the Commonwealth; express my support for Pennsylvania emergency physicians in their ongoing fight against the COVID-19 pandemic; and reaffirm the value of emergency medicine and the vital role that Pennsylvania emergency physicians serve in ensuring the health and well-being of all Pennsylvanians.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUNIATA
BREWING COMPANY

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Juniata Brewing Company on winning the New Construction Award, which showcases excellence in development, from the Huntingdon County Chamber of Commerce.

The Juniata Brewing Company opened its doors in March 2020 and faced numerous challenges amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Overcoming these obstacles, the Juniata Brewing Company team adapted their business to provide curbside growler pick up and offered delivery services within the community.

The Juniata Brewing Company seeks to enrich the community and expand our region's craft brewing industry. Small businesses such as the Juniata Brewing Company are a staple of our community. Congratulations to the team for persevering through unprecedented challenges, and I wish them continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE
AND LEGACY OF ALVIN SYKES

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with sorrow and a heavy heart that I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of the late Alvin Sykes, who passed away on March 19th. Alvin was a monumental man—one who dedicated his life to seeking truth and justice for those who were long denied it because of the systemic injustice that was so prevalent in the civil rights era. While he was only on this Earth for sixty-four years, the reverberations of his actions will extend for much longer.

Born in 1956, Alvin came of age during the height of the civil rights movement. Following the eighth grade, Alvin left formal education and continued his learning in the libraries of Kansas City, Missouri. As a young man, he was deeply moved by the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., solidifying his lifelong commitment to carrying on the banner of civil rights. While it was the death of Dr. King that galvanized Alvin, it was a personal tragedy that entrenched his methodology. In 1980, Steve Harvey, a young KC jazz musician and close friend of Alvin, was murdered. Despite the original trial ending in an acquittal, Alvin dug deep through legal resources and collected enough information to reopen the case. Establishing the Steve Harvey Justice Campaign, Sykes collected thousands of signatures in an effort to demonstrate the public's desire to seek justice. In the end, his hard work paid off. Because of his efforts, the man responsible for Mr. Harvey's murder was found guilty of his crime and sentenced to life in prison. With his first case behind him, Alvin turned his eyes to issues of nationwide injustice. Renaming the Steve Harvey Justice Campaign, the Justice Campaign of America, Alvin and his fellow activists sought to right the wrongs of injustice anywhere that they could find it.